

Appln No. 10/040,932

Amdt date August 12, 2004

Reply to Office action of May 12, 2004

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including amended drawings is attached following page 11 of this paper.

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 3, 9-17, 20 and 22-28 now remain pending in this application. Applicant has canceled claims 2, 4 and 19, amended claims 1, 3, 20 and 23, and added new claim 29. The amendments find full support in the original specification, claims and drawings. No new matter is presented. In view of the above amendments and following remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that all of pending claims 1, 3, 9-17, 20 and 22-28 are in condition for allowance. Applicant therefore respectfully requests reconsideration and a timely indication of allowance.

In the Final Rejection dated May 12, 2004, the Examiner allowed claims 1-3, 9-17 and 22-28, but rejected claims 4, 19 and 20 as allegedly indefinite under 35 U.S.C. § 112 ¶ 2. The Examiner takes the position that dependent claim 4 is inconsistent with independent claim 1. Applicant has canceled claim 4, and added in its place new independent claim 29.

The Examiner also takes the position that dependent claim 19 is inconsistent with independent claim 1. Applicant has canceled claim 19, and added in its place new independent claim 29.

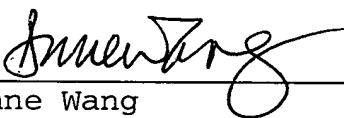
Applicant has also amended the term "cover" at line 17 of claim 1 to recite "covering" as requested by the Examiner. In addition, Applicant has canceled claim 2. Applicant has also amended claim 20 to depend from claim 1, rather than canceled claim 19, and has amended claim 3 to depend from claim 1, rather than canceled claim 2. Finally, Applicant has amended claim 23 to recite a method rather than a catheter.

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The Examiner also objected to the drawings as failing to show two ring electrodes as claimed in claim 1. Applicant has amended Figs. 1 and 4 to depict a second ring electrode, as reflected in the replacement and annotated drawings submitted herewith. The second ring electrode is labeled with reference numeral 28. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the objection to the drawings be withdrawn.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that all of pending claims 1, 3, 9-17, 20 and 22-28 are in condition for allowance. Applicant, therefore respectfully requests a timely indication of allowance. If there are any remaining issues that can be addressed by telephone, Applicant invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,
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